

Message Text

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53
ACTION L-01

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DPW-01 SAJ-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03

SP-02 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SAM-01 EA-06 EUR-08 IO-03

PRS-01 RSC-01 /053 W
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R 161051Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1927
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
USDEL JEC PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL SAIGON 583

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM PFOR ICRC VN VS
SUBJ: "PRG" ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE

REFS: A) STATE 8673; B) STATE 7284; C) SAIGON 392

1. WELCOME INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTEL A BUT
HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING OUR APPROACH ON
"PRG" ISSUES INTERNATIONALLY TO UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH
TO THE QUESTION IN THE LIGHT OF CURRENT NVA OFFENSIVE AND
ESTABLISHMENT OF "PRG" OFFICE IN GENEVA.

2. WE RECOMMEND THAT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BE SENT TO ALL
DIPLOMATIC POSTS IN ONE OR MORE MESSAGES INCLUDING POINTS BELOW.

3. IN ADDITION TO STATEMENTS IN PARA TWO REFTEL A CONCERNING
NATURE OF "PRG", WE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT IT IS ENTIRELY
DEPENDENT FOR ITS EXISTENCE ON THE PRESENCE OF A LARGE NUMBER
OF WELL-ARMED NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS IN THE SOUTH. WE SHOULD ALSO
POINT OUT THAT RECENT COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN WHICH THEY SEIZED
AN ENTIRE PROVINCE HELD BY GVN AT TIME OF CEASEFIRE DEMONSTRATES A
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DISREGARD OF INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS WHICH DOES NOT MAKE "PRG"
APPEAR TO BE A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE FOR A CONFERENCE INTENDED TO

SET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS. WE COULD FURTHER POINT OUT THAT
SEIZURE OF PHUOC LONG HAS ALREADY BROUGHT SOME REPORTS OF REFUGEES
BEING SHOT DOWN BY COMMUNIST TROOPS AS THEY FLED THE SCENE OF
BATTLE, AND THAT THESE CRUELTIIES ONLY ADD TO A LONG LIST OF PRIOR
SIMILAR INCIDENTS WHICH MAKE HYPOCRITICAL TO THE EXTREME
THE EFFORT OF SOME COUNTRIES TO BRING ABOUT "PRG" ADMISSION TO
A CONFERENCE WITH HUMANITARIAN AIMS.

4. FURTHER WEIGHT COULD BE GIVEN TO US POSITION IF ALL POSTS
WERE INSTRUCTED TO PRESENT COPY OF US NOTE OF JAN 11 (REF B)
TO HOST GOVTs IN MAKING THEIR DEMARChES.

5. IN A SEPARATE BUT RELATED MATTER, WE NOTE INSTRUCTIONS ON
"PRG" ADMISSION AS OBSERVER TO WMO CONGRESS (REF C) HAVE NOT
YET GONE OUT. MFA DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS
TOLD US JAN 16 THAT GVN CONSIDERING URGING THAT QUESTION OF IN-
VITING "PRG" AS OBSERVER SHOULD BE SUBJECT OF CONSULTATION AMONG
MEMBER COUNTRIES UNDER PARA B OF RULE 65 PRIOR TO POSTAL BALLOT
BEING TAKEN. WE WOULD APPRECIATE VIEWS OF DEPARTMENT OR OTHER
ADDRESSEES AS TO WHETHER THIS RULE CAN BE USED IN FURTHER
APPROACH TO SECRETARIAT OR AS AN ARGUMENT FOR NEGATIVE VOTES IN
POSTAL BALLOT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, LAW, WAR, OPPOSITION TO ADMISSION, COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SAIGON00583
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750017-0247
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750146/aaaaboid.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 8673, 75 STATE 7284, 75 SAIGON 392
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "PRG" ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, VN, VS, ICRC, PRG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006